



# County of Los Angeles

## CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

713 KENNETH HAHN HALL OF ADMINISTRATION • LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA 90012  
(213) 974-1101  
<http://cao.co.la.ca.us>

DAVID E. JANSSEN  
Chief Administrative Officer

May 27, 2003

Board of Supervisors  
GLORIA MOLINA  
First District

YVONNE BRATHWAITE BURKE  
Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY  
Third District

DON KNABE  
Fourth District

MICHAEL D. ANTONOVICH  
Fifth District

To: Supervisor Yvonne Brathwaite Burke, Chair  
Supervisor Gloria Molina  
Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky  
Supervisor Don Knabe  
Supervisor Michael D. Antonovich

From: David E. Janssen  
Chief Administrative Officer

### FEDERAL LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Congress has recessed for the Memorial Day holiday and will return on June 2, 2003. At that time, it will begin considering the Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2004 appropriations bills. In mid-June, the House may also conduct hearings on Medicaid reform.

**Homeland Security:** On Friday, May 23, 2003, Washington Advocates Reggie Todd, Tom Joseph and Franklin Logan joined representatives of four other urban counties in a meeting with representatives of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The County representatives expressed strong concerns about last week's DHS press release implying that DHS was going to allocate funding to high threat urban areas through cities.

DHS representatives at the meeting included Josh Filler, DHS Director for State and Local Coordination, and Andy Mitchell, Acting Director of the Office for Domestic Preparedness, which is responsible for administering domestic terrorism preparedness grants to state and local governments, including high threat grants. Other DHS staff involved in writing the application guidelines also attended.

The response from DHS officials was very similar to one conveyed to Sheriff Baca and Washington Advocate Franklin Logan in a previous meeting. (Please refer to the Attachment.) DHS informed the group that the application guidelines, to be issued in about two weeks, will make it clear that new funding to high threat urban areas was not going directly to the cities of Los Angeles or Long Beach. Under the guidance, DHS will direct recipients to adopt a regional approach based upon comprehensive coordination

Each Supervisor  
May 27, 2003  
Page 2

and mutual aid agreements. Under the State's guidance, those entities will be expected to work collaboratively with the County to determine the uses for the funding received in the metropolitan area.

The State of California will receive the high threat funding and, upon approval of a local entities plan, will pass through 80 percent of the funds called for in the approved plan. Up to 20 percent of the funding may be retained by the state for use only in designated high threat urban area. DHS officials said that it is not their intent to duplicate current state structures such as the one in California designating counties as the Operational Area. DHS officials stated that the application guidance will make it "crystal clear" that cities will not be able to unilaterally decide how the money will be allocated. Mutual agreement by all parties must exist before funds are committed.

As previously reported to your Board, \$500 million will be provided through states to 30 cities and their contiguous counties and mutual aid partners. A total of \$25.33 million is available for the areas including and surrounding the cities of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Additionally, the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach will receive nearly \$9.1 million of the \$75 million in port security funds being released, and the Los Angeles Metropolitan Transportation Authority will receive nearly \$4.6 million of \$65 million in mass transit security funds being released.

We will continue to keep you advised of any new developments.

DEJ:GK  
RT:TJ:ib

#### Attachment

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors  
County Counsel  
All Department Heads  
Legislative Strategist